GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:599
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
IMPORT OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Animal Husbandry has noted any foot-and-mouth disease in animals and written to the Law Ministry that since meat and meat products were freely imported after quantitative restrictions were removed, there is an urgent need for regulating imports of meat and meat products for reasons of food safety to ensure that it does not bring disease into the country; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the suggestions made by the Law Ministry in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a)&(b): In wake of the removal of quantitative restrictions on import of a number of animal products, Government of India felt the need to protect the human and animal health through adoption of appropriate measures. Since the Livestock Importation Act, 1898, did not enable the Central Government to regulate the import of Animal products which could bring in diseases that could adversely effect the human and animal health in the country, the Government of India decided to amend the said Act. Since the matter was of urgent nature and Parliament was not in session an Ordinance drafted by the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs was got promulgated on 5-7-2001 after following the due procedure.